

the Confederate right. On the afternoon of that day Rodes's Division attacked the enemy at Snicker's Ford, driving them into the Shenandoah river, where the loss in killed and drowned was heavy. On the 19th the division moved towards Strasburg, and on the afternoon of the 20th went to the support of General Ramseur, who was then engaged by the enemy near Winchester. But the engagement having ceased before the arrival of the division, it retired to Fisher's Hill and there remained till the morning of the 24th, when an attack was made upon the enemy at Kernstown and they were driven across the Potomac and followed into Maryland. And then Rodes's Division, sometimes in detachments and at others in a body, marched and countermarched between the Potomac river and Fisher's Hill until September 22. During this time the 43d Regiment was engaged in almost daily skirmishing, and took part in the battles of Winchester, August 17; Charlestown, August 21; Smithfield, August 29; Bunker's Hill, September 3; Winchester (No. 2), September 19, and Fisher's Hill, September 22.

Having been defeated in the last engagement at Fisher's Hill, the Confederates retreated up the valley, followed by the enemy to Waynesboro, where reinforcements were received, and then, on October 1, returned down the valley, reaching Fisher's Hill on the 13th of October. The 43d composed part of the body of troops which marched around the left and rear of the enemy's camp at Cedar Creek on the night of October 18, preparatory to the general attack made on the morning of the 19th, resulting in their defeat

in the early part of the day. Reinforcements having been received by the enemy in the afternoon, the tide of battle was turned and the Confederates were driven up the valley to New Market, where they remained in camp without further incident till about the 22d of November, when a considerable body of Union cavalry under the command of General Sheridan was attacked and routed by Rodes's Division between New Market and Mount Jackson. This ended the noted Valley Campaign of 1864.

About a week before Christmas, the 43d, with the other troops composing the old 2d Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia, returned to Petersburg and went into winter quarters on Swift creek, three miles north of the city. The next movement was to South-erland's Depot, on the right wing of the army, south of Petersburg, on the 15th of February, 1865. Here the regiment remained with the other troops of the division till about the middle of March, when they were ordered into the trenches in front of Petersburg to relieve General Bushrod Johnson's Division, which was to occupy another position.

The increasing disproportion in the numbers of the opposing armies made it necessary for Rodes's Division, now composed of only about 2,200 men, to cover a distance of about three and a half miles in the trenches, and to do this it required one-third of the men on picket duty in front of the trenches and one-third on duty in the trenches, where the mud was frequently more than shoe-deep and sometimes knee-deep, while the remaining third caught a broken rest on their arms. No general engagement took place